ed and throughout the proceedings I hope, from all Hon'ble Members, to receive that support to the Chair which it has been my custom to receive in the past. We will now pass on to the business of the day.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Excess payments through interim bills on works.

181. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether there have been final bills passed by the Chief Engineer for works in Karkadagam last when, as a result of his check-measurement, large amounts already unduly and excessively paid on individual items of works in interim bills on the responsibility of the Divisional Officers and Sub-divisional Officers had to be recovered from either the usual 10% reductions made from the contractor's interim bills or from the value of works since done on other items of the estimates or from amounts due to contractors on other works ;

(b) if so, the names of works, the amounts found excessively paid on interim bills on individual items and how these excessive payments were recovered from the contractors may be stated ; who are the contractors of such works and who are the Sub-divisional and Divisional Officers concerned ; were any explanations called for from the officers responsible for such over-payments in interim bills and how were they disposed of ; were the works of reconstructing the Kannukali bridge and the improvements to the Manapat chira among them ; in what items were there such excess and what were the excess amounts so paid in interim bills in each item ; how were they recovered in the final bill; who were the Divisional and Sub-divisional Officers ?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—(a) No.

(b) In view of the answer above, the rest of the questions do not arise.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is there a practice to pay the whole amount to contractors at the end of the year even though the work is not fully completed?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—No. The works are to be check-measured and paid at the end of the year. By the end of the year the amount does not lapse. But we will take Government sanction to pay for these works next year.

Posting of Surgeon got specialised in Ophthalmology to Ernakulam.

182. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—(1) what were the number of Ophthalmic cases in each year from 1104 to 1108 in the Trichur Hospital ;

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